

# The Southern Ute Drum

WINNER OF FOUR NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION AWARDS INCLUDING GENERAL EXCELLENCE IN 2011

Vol. XLIII • No. 26 • December 30, 2011

Ignacio, Colorado • 81137-0737

Bulk Rate - U.S. Postage Permit No. 1

## Inside The Drum

Update	2
Culture	3
Ed./Health	4
Sports	5
Year in review	6-7
Voices	8
Notices	9
Christmas	10
Classifieds	11
Back Page	12



## 2011: The year in review



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

As 2011 draws to a close, the Drum takes a look back through its archives to compile a list of the top 15 news trends of the year. We recognize Southern Ute tribal members both old and young for their accomplishments, and remember the events that made this year one to remember: from the bevy of elections inside the tribal campus to the cluster of wildfires burning just over the hill, there was seldom a dull moment on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Turn to page 6 for the full list.



### Southern Ute tribal office closures

**New Year's Day**  
Monday, Jan. 2, 2012  
Offices will reopen  
Tuesday, Jan. 3

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
Monday, Jan. 16, 2012  
Offices will reopen  
Tuesday, Jan. 17



## Newton appoints Olguin vice chairman

*Staff report*  
*The Southern Ute Drum*

Jimmy R. Newton Jr., chairman of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council, has appointed James M. Olguin his vice chairman.

Newton announced the

appointment in a memo to tribal staffers on Friday, Dec. 27. Olguin had previously served as vice chairman under Newton's predecessor, Pearl E.



Casias, and later as acting chairman leading up to the Wednesday, Dec. 14 runoff election.

On Thursday, Dec. 15, Newton announced he was appointing Steve R. Herrera Sr. as executive officer and Amy Barry as assistant executive officer.

## Young poet visits museum



photo Ace Stryker/SU DRUM

Tanaya Winder stopped by the Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum on Thursday, Dec. 22 to sign copies of "Soul Talk, Soul Language: Conversations With Joy Harjo," a book she co-edited with Harjo. Winder, who graduated from Stanford University in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in English and is currently pursuing a master's in poetry at the University of New Mexico, also read selections from her own poetry, which she hopes to compile into a book to be published soon.

## A Southern Ute Christmas



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

Southern Ute tribal members line up with their children for a chance to sit on Santa's lap following the annual Christmas Dinner and program on Saturday, Dec. 17 in the Sky Ute Casino Resort's Events Center. For more photos see page 10.





News in brief

IGNACIO

Justice & Regulatory seeks name for new building

The Southern Ute Department of Justice & Regulatory is seeking the assistance of the tribal membership in the naming of the new J&R building, formerly the Youth Treatment Center. This building will house the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO), the Environmental Programs Division, and the Tribal Rangers and Animal Control. Please submit your suggestions by Jan. 18, 2012, to the Department of Justice & Regulatory at P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137 or by calling Misty Wilson at 970-563-0292. The final selection will be made by the Southern Ute Tribal Council.

Thought of being a member of Tribal Council?

Attention tribal members ages 13 to 19 years of age: Are you concerned about issues facing tribal youth? Committed to make a difference in our community that will have a positive impact on the tribal youth? Then the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council may be for you. Become a leader, role model and voice for the tribal youth. For more information, contact McKean Walton at 970-563-0100 ext. 2314. Sponsored by the Southern Ute Tribal Council.

SUPD offering reward for stolen guns

The Southern Ute Police Department is offering up to a \$1,000 reward for the return of two stolen firearms or information that leads to the arrest of the person(s) responsible for the theft. The first is a German drilling gun, which is a triple-barrel rifle and shotgun combination with two side-by-side 16-gauge barrels and a single 8x57R rifle barrel. The second is a .38 Special snub nose revolver. The firearms were stolen during a burglary of a residence on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation sometime between May 27 and June 11. If you have any information, please call Detective Luke Austin of the Southern Ute Police Department Investigations Bureau at 970-563-4942.

Free bison meat available to tribal members

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Division of Wildlife Resource Management maintains a small herd of bison for the Tribe's ceremonial, cultural and dietary needs. As a service to the tribal membership, the division makes available bison meat to enrolled Southern Ute tribal members free of charge. Tribal bison are grass-fed at low herd density and are free of artificial hormones and other synthetic chemicals. Bison meat is naturally low in cholesterol and an excellent, healthy alternative to beef. If you are an enrolled Southern Ute tribal member interested in obtaining bison meat for personal use, call the Division of Wildlife at 970-563-0130. Quantities and cuts of meat available may be limited.

SunUte now taking registrations for leagues

The SunUte Community Center is now taking registrations for adult basketball and women's volleyball leagues. The basketball leagues are for men's open, women's open and men's 35 and over leagues. The registration fee is \$300 per team. The deadline to register for the basketball leagues is Jan. 27, 2012. The women's volleyball league registration is \$300 per team and the deadline to register is Jan. 27, 2012. To register or if you have any questions, please contact Kayla Wing or McKean Walton at 970-563-0124 or check out the SunUte website at [www.sunute.com](http://www.sunute.com).

Boys & Girls Club holiday hours announced

The Boys & Girls Club of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe has announced its holiday hours for the New Year's Day weekend. The club will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2, 2012, and will resume normal hours on Tuesday, Jan. 3 from 3 to 7 p.m. Checkin starts at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 9 a.m.; checkout starts at 4 p.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m. Happy new year!

DURANGO

Information sessions for adult learners

Are you ready to earn your bachelor's degree? Learn how at free informational sessions from Fort Lewis College. Sessions will cover opportunities for adult learners at FLC and explain how to enroll and apply for financial aid. Sessions are free and open to the public, and will be held every Wednesday at the Durango Public Library from 6 to 7 p.m. in Program Room 3. For more information, call 970-247-7670.

SUIT Environmental Programs

is offering free home radon testing to Tribal Members.

Please call Peter Diethrich for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Priority to Elders and those with infants in their homes.

563-0135 x2238

[pdieth@southern-ute.nsn.us](mailto:pdieth@southern-ute.nsn.us)

Many Moons Ago



photo archives/SU DRUM

10 Years Ago

The second of two drum groups from the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy goes through its songs. Both groups delighted those in attendance at the 2001 Southern Ute tribal Christmas program. Drum group 12 Guage also performed to open and close the program. Academy students sang songs before an appreciative audience. Songs were also sung by the All-American Indian Choir of Fort Lewis College.

This photo first appeared in the Dec. 28, 2001, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



photo archives/SU DRUM

30 Years Ago

James Jefferson was the emcee for the Southern Ute Tribal Christmas Program. Miss Southern Ute Williamette Thompson was attending another function, and Ellen Watts was called upon to receive her gift during the honoring of elders. Eddie Box Sr. can be seen in the background. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Frost were also in line to receive their sack of candy.

This photo first appeared in the Jan. 1, 1982, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.

No photo was available for the 20 years ago segment of this issue of the Drum. Look for the 10 years ago photo in the Friday, Jan. 13, 2012 issue of the Drum.

See [SkyUteCasino.com](http://SkyUteCasino.com) for all gaming promotions & entertainment information!

SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

**\$112,000**

*New Year Extravaganza*

**Sky Ute Casino wants to start 2012 off with a bang so we are giving away \$112,000 in cash and Sky Ute Loot throughout the month of January!**

**New Year's Eve Kickoff**

**\$200 Sky Ute Loot** drawings from 3:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. every 15 minutes (excluding the top of the hour).

**\$500 CASH** drawings every hour on the hour from 4:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

**\$11,000 CASH** drawing at 11:45 p.m. (all previous Sky Ute Loot and cash winners will be eligible for 11:45 p.m. drawing).

**Spin the Wheel Kiosk Game**

All Bear Club members can swipe their card at the kiosk and play the \$112,000 New Year Extravaganza game once per week on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday from 12 p.m. until 9 p.m. Prizes range from entry tickets into the Saturday cash drawings up to \$100 in Sky Ute Loot!

**Saturday Cash Drawings**

Every Saturday in January we will hold hourly drawings from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. and you could win your share of the \$52,000 in CASH to be given away!

Must be 21 years of age or older. Must be a member of the Bear Club. Must check in at the kiosk on New Year's Eve as well as on Saturday's for drawings. Sky Ute Loot must be played off into Sky Ute Loot eligible slot machines and has no cash value. Must be present to win. Employees of Sky Ute Casino and their immediate family are not eligible for cash drawings. Management reserves the right to change or cancel this promotion at anytime without prior notice.

**14324 Hwy 172 N. Ignacio, CO 81137 970-563-7777**

**[www.skyutecasino.com](http://www.skyutecasino.com)**





## Merry Christmas Towaoc



photos Tom Alires/Special to the Drum

Miss Southern Ute Brianna Goodtracks-Alires accepted an invitation from Ute Mountain Ute Royalty to attend the Christmas Powwow in Towaoc, Colo., on Friday, Dec. 23.

## Ute Language

kawachi - frost  
kuchitii - heat  
parusipu - ice  
wi'yag'aru - warm



Editor's note: The Ute Language and translation are transcribed from the 2011 Ute Dictionary, ©1996.

## Nuu'apag'ga



photo Ace Stryker/SU DRUM

Members of the Ute Language 101 class gather for the final class of the year on Wednesday, Dec. 21. The students are flanked here by Professor Talmy Givon (standing, far left) and Southern Ute Cultural Department Director Stacey Oberly, who helped coordinate the classes. Not pictured is the course's other teacher, Alden Naranjo.

## You're Invited

Nuruvu' 'aaghai  
"Forever Young"

Who: Tribal Elders

What: Brunch and discussion about future Elder's exercise class

When: Jan. 10, 2012 at 11 a.m.

Where: Multi-Purpose Facility

Contact: Amber or Maria  
970-563-0214 ext. 2658



## Powwow Trails

**13th NCI New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow**  
December 31, 2011 – January 1, 2012  
680 S. Boardman Ave. • Gallup, NM  
Contact: NCI  
Phone: 505-722-2177

**8th Annual New Years Eve Powwow**  
December 31  
120 W. 1300s • Salt Lake City, UT  
Contact: Mitchell Eriacho  
Phone: 801-706-8522  
Email: meriacho4@yahoo.com

**11th New Years Eve Sobriety Powwow**  
December 31  
100 Civic Center • Tulsa, OK  
Contact: Niles Bosin  
Phone: 918-639-1816  
Email: choctaw1865@yahoo.com

**Comanche Little Pony New Year's Eve Powwow**  
December 31  
Comanche Complex Exit 45 I-44 • Lawton, OK  
Contact: Lowell Nibbs  
Phone: 580-583-5279  
Email: lowellnibbs@yahoo.com

**Comanche Homecoming Benefit Powwow**  
January 14, 2012  
Comanche Nation Complex • Lawton, OK  
Contact: Leonard Eschiti or Mary Tosee  
Phone: 580-512-7280, 580-704-7028  
Email: veschiti@gmail.com



### New Year's Community Celebration

Everyone Welcome

Where: Ignacio High School Gym

When: Dec 31, 2011- Jan 1, 2012

Gourd Dancing Starts: Noon

Head Gourd Dancers Nakwih Perry & Alvin Keeswood

A free Dinner will be served in the IHS cafeteria @ 5:00 PM for the whole community

Grand Entry: 7:00 PM

Head Men David Boyd & Greg Bison

Head Lady Patricia Leroy & Amya Bison

Honor Guard: Southern Ute Veterans

M/C: Clarence Smith & Kashina Perry

All Drums welcome, first 5 to be paid day money.

Invited Drum: 12 Gauge and SunEagle Singers  
Specials, Cake walk, Raffles, 50/50 potato dance

Arena Director: Bruce LeClaire and Philman Lopez

Vendors: \$25 or a donation  
For more information contact: Kashina Perry @ 970-903-7125

NAYO would like to thank our Sponsors: JOM, BGC, Southern Ute Wellness Court, Ignacio High School Staff, Father Hood Mother Hood Org., and all the people that care about our futures.



This is an Alcohol and Drug-Free community event for all the People of the Southern Ute Reservation, and the Ignacio, Bayfield and Durango communities.

Come one, come all, young and elder bring in the New Year sharing with your Neighbor.

THE NAYO YOUTH ORGANIZATION AND THE IGNACIO HIGH SCHOOL ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS.





# The Kidney Corner:

## New year’s resolutions for your kidney health

By Dr. Mark Saddler  
Durango Nephrology Associates

Happy new year to everyone!

As we enter a new year, this is a good time to think about the things we can do to positively impact our health this year. As a kidney doctor, I am always interested in the things my patients can do to help prevent kidney disease and improve their health in general.

So let’s think about some healthy new year’s resolutions.

First, if you expose your body to harmful toxins, how about eliminating these? Tobacco use increases the risk of various types of cancer. In addition, the harmful chemicals in tobacco smoke also cause increased deposition of cholesterol in the arteries, resulting in an increased risk of heart disease and stroke.

It also damages the lungs, causing chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Less well known is the fact that it can also cause kidney disease. It’s never too late to quit, but the sooner the better!

Quitting is usually accompanied by withdrawal symptoms, so it’s never easy, but there are some medicines that can help with tobacco cravings. So, if you smoke, set a quit date early in 2012, tell your friends and family when it will be so that they can



support you, and then stick to that date for a total withdrawal!

Heavy alcohol use is another harmful habit with many potential bad effects. It can cause severe liver damage, heart disease and hypertension. There are also many indirect harmful effects, including risks of motor vehicle accidents, failed relationships, and so forth.

It is recommended that women drink not more than one alcoholic drink per day, with a two-per-day maximum for men. Many people who have problems controlling their alcohol intake should not drink alcohol at all.

This year, how about addressing another lifestyle-related health issue if it applies to you: obesity. This problem has reached epidemic proportions in the United States, and the obesity problem seems to get worse every

time a new measurement is made of Americans’ body weight.

This can be one of the most difficult lifestyle issues to correct. Although there are many diets out there, some of which will enable short-term weight loss, my opinion is that unfortunately there is no substitute for simple calorie restriction to promote long-term weight loss.

Support groups can help with all the lifestyle changes discussed above. Exercise can also help with weight loss, though results are often disappointing unless there is calorie restriction to go with it. However, exercise has so many other advantages for cardiovascular health, bone strength and psychological well-being that it is strongly recommended, even independent of its contribution to weight loss.

The benefits of these therapeutic lifestyle changes extend to many medical conditions. For example, patients with diabetes benefit from weight loss and exercise by improvement of blood glucose, lower blood pressure, and improved kidney function. It’s also a great feeling to know that you are doing everything you can for your body’s health using natural lifestyle measures that are simple, save money, and are without side effects.

I wish you the best health and happiness in 2012!

# Who am I: What is my purpose?

By Tim Yaw  
Nuuciu Bible Baptist Church

This is the third article of a series in our search for genuine love. We have proposed that living together in peace is not possible without love for one another.

We have further shown that love for others coming from within ourselves is contradictory because love as we know it is based on attraction, affection and assurance toward us from others. If we demand to be loved individually, how can we adequately love others?

So because genuine love cannot come from within, the only other place it can come from is external. Thus we shifted our focus from the natural to the spiritual by proving that we are a soul or spirit as well as a physical body.

With a spiritual focus, we then affirmed that humans are created beings by an intelligent creator. From this we agreed that intellect implies personality, which implies personage. Thus this creator, though a spirit, is a person because he has a personality. Since he is a person, we need to give him a name. Let us call him God.

Remember that we previously established by definition that a god is supreme; thus, there can only be one god. So when we use the name God, we are referring to the only supreme being.

If we are still in agreement, let us move forward. According to research studies, the majority of people — nearly 96 percent — believe they were created rather than evolved from a lesser life form. Since we are created beings, God must have made us for a purpose.

Though most believe God is the human creator, opinions about the human purpose is where spiritual belief systems splinter, leading to various ideas about who God is and how to

relate to him.

No matter what the core beliefs of the numerous belief systems are, their focus is spiritual, thus narrowing God down to one of two types of a god: either subjective or objective.

Subjective imagery of a god is formed from within a person, making this god suit their imagination or belief. Usually subjective formation fits the person’s lifestyle, thus not making them accountable to a real god. In other words, the person forms the god they want to worship which conforms to their conscience, eliminating any guilt.

God, the creator, is objective in that he exists no matter how a person perceives him or even if they never think about him. In other words, God is real.

Here’s an example of the above: A writing pen is designed to make words on paper. It can be used as a weapon or even a coffee stirrer, but it is still what it was designed to be: a pen. If you laid the pen down, walked away from it and did not think about it, it would not cease to exist.

Because not thinking about it or perceiving it as something else does not make it something else, it is still a pen! Whether one worships a self-made god, does not think about the objective God, or even denies God, God does not cease to exist.

As to our purpose in this life, adhering to a subjective god makes one’s own happiness the purpose of his life. The idea is that the end of all being is the happiness of man. This is humanistic thinking because it is self-centered with the goal of life being self satisfaction.

This thinking is fueled by human pride and attempts to make God into a “genie in a bottle” or Santa Claus. What sense would it make for God to create such complex and intricate humans only to be pleasing to them and asking

nothing in return? It is not very logical to me.

So what is the other side of this ideology?

What if God created such human complexity to have a meaningful relationship with? This ideology is centered on the thinking that the end of all being is the glorification of God. Here the idea of the goal of life is to enter into an intimate relationship with the creator, to be pleasing to him by willfully adhering to his desires and in return being blessed by him.

Remember that we affirmed that there is nothing higher than a supreme being, which gives him sovereignty over his creation. So, can we logically affirm that we were created by God and exist at his will in order to glorify him? By using the reasoning we have shown in this series so far, I think we have affirmed it.

Knowing where we came from and why we exist, it appears we are getting closer to finding the external source of genuine love for which we have been searching. It should now appear clear that God is that external source, but you are going to be surprised at what genuine or real love consists of.

As we have been saying, humans are not capable of genuine love without God sharing it with us and allowing us to use it in helping others. Here is a hint: Genuine love involves sacrifice, but our human pride stands in the way.

Do not miss the next issue of The Southern Ute Drum, because genuine love will be exposed in monumental fashion by God himself as we answer our last question: Where am I going when my body dies?

I pray that you all have a happy and safe New Year’s weekend and that the exposure to genuine love from the next issue changes your life forever.

# Nutrition bytes of health

By Wendy Rice

Shining Mountain Diabetes Program

The holidays are not just about the food — they are also about the people you share it with. Take some time to enjoy the company and conversation. Did

you know that this time of year is when we tend to do most of our weight gain for the year?

Of course, enjoy your meal. But for starters, slow down: put your fork down, take a breath, and talk between mouthfuls. Enjoy whomever you are with.

The second challenge is to chew each bite of food at least five times before swallowing. It sounds simple enough, but it will help you to calm down, taste and enjoy what you are eating, and — most importantly — it lets your stomach tell you when it is full.

## Education update

### January classes for tribal members

**Scrapbooking:** Saturday, Jan. 14, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the Higher Education Classroom. Participants will use paper crafting, stamping, stickers for scrap booking. Bring pictures, mementos, souvenirs, concert tickets etc. Contact Luana Herrera at Higher Education 970-563-0237 to sign up.

### Education announces GED test dates

The Department of Education would like to announce the GED test dates for the upcoming months: The January test date has been moved to Jan. 13, Feb. 3 and March 2. The test is held at the Education Building on Burns Ave. Registration and payments are due by Tuesday before the test. Scholarships are available for Native Americans who live within 50 miles of the service area, spend 12 hours in class, score a 450 on practice tests and submit paperwork two weeks in advance. For more information, call Pine River Community Learning Center at 970-563-0681 or Donna Broad at 970-563-0237 or 970-749-1953.

# Community Meeting



## Organize AND Strategize COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS

Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.  
Southern Ute Higher Education Building

CONTACT INFORMATION:  
Health Services, 970-563-0154  
Shining Mountain Diabetes Program, 970-563-4741

## Holiday School Closures

Ignacio School District: Dec. 19 – Jan. 2  
Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy: Dec. 19 – Jan. 2  
Southern Ute Montessori Head Start: Dec. 19 – Jan. 2  
Bayfield School District: Dec. 22 – Jan. 6



Please note that most dental insurance benefits end Dec. 31, 2011. Any unused benefits will be lost. Call us today!

Drs. GLENN and JORDAN RUTHERFORD

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• Laser Gum Treatment  
• Clear Braces (Invisalign)  
• Sedation for the Anxious  
• Digital X-rays for 85% Less Radiation

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**731-DOCS (3627)**

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*Now through Jan. 1, 2012.*

This is a value of  
**\$205 for only \$75.**  
**Use the \$130 you are  
saving to spend for  
Christmas!**

*Call for your  
appointment!*

*Not valid with  
any other offer.*







# Cats’ C-team gains bonus reps

By Joel Priest  
Special to the Drum

Proverbial “new school” ended pre-Christmas prep basketball play inside a literal old school — currently called Bayfield Middle School — on Saturday, Dec. 17.

With only a minimum five players at his disposal, former Ignacio guard Trae Seibel found himself calling shots — or calling for more of them — as the boss of IHS’s C-team at a five-team, round-robin tournament that also drew crews from 4A Durango, 3A Pagosa Springs, 2A Mancos, and BHS.

The young Bobcats battled the Wolverines right off the bat in 8 a.m. action (early games took place inside Bayfield High’s gym). Shorthanded to the tune of 5-on-10, IHS fell behind 16-3 after the opening six-minute quarter, but rallied back to 24-15 at halftime before falling 45-22.

John House registered 11 points for the Cats, but the Wolverines got 11 apiece from forward John Fisher and guards Luke Webb and Conner Kennedy, who sank three three-pointers.

Sinking a trio of triples himself, House paced Ignacio in its later game against DHS inside the BMS gym, but the Demons — with a lead trimmed to 25-17 late in the third quarter — held on, 34-23.

House notched another 11, Angel Ortiz added six, Adam Herrera four (after scoring nine versus Bayfield), and Sam Mestas two. David Storey scored two points against BHS, meaning all of Seibel’s boys — who all double, normally, as JV players under Shane Seibel — earned scorebook ink by their names.



photo Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio C-teamer David Storey hoists an attempt against Durango during the Bobcats’ last action of 2011, a five-team tournament in Bayfield on Dec. 17.

Perhaps wary of their limited foul supply, Ignacio went a combined meaning both games 7-for-14 at the free-throw line on the day. By comparison, full-benched Bayfield hit 25-of-36 in wins over IHS and, later, MHS.

‘C’ sides from 4A Montezuma-Cortez and 2A Dolores were also set to play, but two days earlier a tragic death close to both schools — especially the Lady Bears’

program, as far as it pertained to Ignacio and the San Juan Basin League — led administrators to cancel their teams’ attendance.

Ignacio’s first SJBL game of 2012 — after the boys’ varsity plays in the Aztec (N.M.) Tigers’ “Rumble in the Jungle” while the Lady Cats are in the Webb Toyota/Kirtland (N.M.) Central Basin Girls’ Invitational on Jan. 10, 2012.

# Cats crack top 20 at Warrior

By Joel Priest  
Special to the Drum

It’s one of those sporting events that often separates the men from the boys.

But it also motivates those boys to return in future seasons as they grow into young men.

Ignacio brought Bobcats on both ends of that spectrum to test their mettle at the Warrior Classic, held Dec. 16 – 17 inside the facilities of host 5A Grand Junction Central High.

The result was a notable improvement over last season’s appearance; three wrestlers earned top-six status, and IHS — which placed 24th in 2010 — finished in a three-way tie for 19th with 3A programs Hotchkiss and Rifle.

As expected, the talented trio of 126-pounder Alex Pena, 152-pounder Teagan Overturf, and 195-pounder Colton Wyatt accounted for the majority of Ignacio’s 59 team points, 43 coming on Day 1 and leaving the Cats alone in 20th place.

Seeing the most mat time of all was Pena, who won five and — as in 2010 — lost two, a 3-1 decision to Central’s Jacob Rubalcaba on Day 1, and a 3-2 loss to Grand Junction’s Jacob Trujillo on Day 2 in the third-place match. Pena’s final win was similarly narrow: a 4-3 defeat of 4A Montezuma-Cortez’s Ryan Daves.

As wrestling fans around town know by now, Alex Pena’s only two losses in 2010-11 came at the Warrior, and seemingly helped him re-focus for the stretch drive of his third state-championship season.

One weight down, Pena’s freshman brother Iaasic went 3-2 at the Classic, recovering from an early 7-3 loss to 5A Denver East’s Maya Nelson. He scored a quality 11-7 decision over Ben Pridy of 3A Olathe before being eliminated by RHS’s Issac Rider.

Overturf went 4-2 in his return to the Warrior, and placed fifth after beating 5A Fountain-Fort

Carson’s Anthony Martin-Walker 11-4. His win over Martin-Walker was his first non-pin result, win or lose (as with Holdren and Padilla), in 2011-12. Son of IHS skipper Bob Overturf, the senior won his first three by pin, but then lost to Central’s Willy Holdren and Derick Padilla of 5A Rocky Mountain (Fort Collins).

Wyatt also began the tournament strong, with pins of 3A Cedaredge’s Garrett Humble and 4A Montrose’s Cole Panter, before also ending with a fifth-place finish. Eventual champ Rip Price of 4A Air Academy (Colorado Springs) sent Wyatt into the survival stages with a 19-6 major decision, and Wyatt then defaulted to Paonia’s Morgan Rieder before having the favor returned by F-FC’s Tracy Hancock.

Ranked No. 1 in Class 2A coming in, PHS took second (155.5 points) in the team standings, trailing the 175 of Roosevelt (Johnstown), the No. 6 in 4A. Unranked Central tied RMHS’s Lobos — 5A’s No. 10 — for third (152). Grand Junction came in fifth (140), followed by 5A No. 7 Arvada West (131), 4A No. 10 Palisade (130), 4A No. 3 Pueblo South (129), 4A No. 8 Montrose (114.5), and 3A’s No. 2 OHS (109.5).

Ignacio senior Jeff Herrera earned the Bobcats’ other victory at the Classic, via a tense 2-1 win over Center’s Gustavo Nungaray at 132 pounds, but then succumbed to Paonia’s Ty Coats by pin and to A-West’s Luke McDonald by 18-5 major decision.

At 106, freshman Keith Joosten was pinned twice in his two matches — first by Roosevelt’s Dustin Hayden, and secondly by 4A Pueblo Centennial’s Brandon Vigil-Archuleta.

Sophomore Christian Knoll fared slightly better, though going 0-2 at 170. Andrew Vigil of 4A Eagle Valley (Gypsum) notched a pin, but Knoll went the distance in a 12-6 loss to D-

East’s Dante Vigil.

Freshman Klayson Smith went 0-1 at 145 pounds — up from his usual 138 — losing to 5A Fruita Monument senior Steven Tausch.

And at 160 pounds, freshman Blaine Mickey’s first Classic also ended with an 0-2 education. Both matches were ended by pin; Hotchkiss’ Polo Ibarra did the deed first, with Nelson Bell of 3A Coal Ridge (New Castle) following suit.

First up in 2012 for the Cats will be Pagosa Springs’ annual Rocky Mountain Invitational on Jan. 7.

Nucla, the only other San Juan Basin League team competing besides Ignacio, finished 29th (34 points), with Cedaredge (14) finishing 35th and last, and Roosevelt extending their record Warrior success streak to a sixth straight title.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS: 106 — Payton Tawater, Arvada West (2-0 over Monte Vista’s Diondre Garcia); 113 — Bennie Pachello, AW (pins Pueblo East’s Willie Franklin); 120 — Kyle McCririe, Douglas County (Castle Rock) (12-4 over Rocky Mountain’s Ben Drysdale); 126 — Robert DeHerrera, Pueblo South (pins Palisade’s Justin Ray); 132 — Zach Shank, Olathe (pins Farmington, N.M.’s Eduardo Trevizo).

138 — Jace Lopez, Roosevelt (pins Grand Junction’s Dylan Thompson); 145 — Anthony Feller, G.J. Central (pins AW’s Tony Silva); 152 — Willy Holdren, GJC (3-1 over Montrose’s Marcus Velasquez); 160 — Jessie Hoffschneider, GJ (pins Monte Vista’s Austin Vance); 170 — David Witt, Grand Valley (Parachute) (12-4 over GJ’s Gage Casey). 182 — Josh Schoenberger, F-FC (pins Roosevelt’s Steve Frank); 195 — Rip Price, Air Academy (10-5 over P-South’s Hunter Reinert); 220 — Andy Armstrong, Eagle Valley (9-1 over GJC’s Thomas Holman); 285 — Trevor Gillen, Durango (5-3 over RM’s Tony Martinez).

# Cheer squad takes 4th at state

By Joel Priest  
Special to the Drum

Apparently, movie bombs and pom-poms are taken equally seriously in Telluride.

Finding some postseason atmosphere of their own as fall football brackets in most CHSAA classifications reached quarterfinal phases — THS’s prospective gridders suit up for Norwood — the Minerettes geared up for their sport’s grand finale with a National Cheerleaders Association/National Dance Alliance Western Colorado Championships win Nov. 19 in Grand Junction.

That was still three weeks before the 2011 State Spirit Championships in Denver.

And the Ignacio Cheer Squad, having worked climate-controlled volleyball matches as well as frigid nights on the IHS Field track backing the Bobcats in helmets and pads, was likely looking forward to a welcome Thanksgiving Break.

But when it came time to travel to the Denver Coliseum on Dec. 10, both the well-decorated program from San Miguel County and the little-known bunch from La Plata County were in the building, each

believing the Class 2A cheer title would be leaving with them.

And though only one group out of the 21 entered would depart as state champions, if all left the dangerous sport — at its most intense moment — uninjured, all could still claim victory.

With a preliminary score of 71.67, Ignacio found themselves in uncharted waters: in contention for the crown. Sitting in fourth, the Cats had already beaten Eastern Plains force Cheyenne Wells, and would be going for the gold alongside Resurrection Christian (Loveland), Dove Creek and Telluride.

Mary Kate Adams, ShaRay Rock, Teresa Zito, Aly Troup, Kayla Knipp, DaShona Lloyd, Shannon Mestas, Gabbie Bufanda, Cheyenne Zito and Sydney Santisteven had a maximum 2 minutes, 30 seconds of performance time remaining to put IHS on the state’s map in a way not seen before.

Rated by presentation, fundamental skills, group technique, crowd appeal, and overall effect, Ignacio had to go their biggest, highest and loudest to sway the six judges. Five of their scores were used, with the highest and the lowest dropped and the

remaining three averaged to determine the overall score.

The overall score: a 68.5. Not enough to catch RC’s 71.33 (down from their preliminary 74.17), DC’s 77.5 (up from 75.17), nor THS’ winning 79.33 (up from 79), but plenty for a top-four finish and a great reference point for coach Jessica Musch to build from in 2012.

Cheyenne Zito was named to the All-State roster.

Having broken into the cheer scene with a third-place day in 2004, Telluride’s title was its first since its 2005-06 repeat. Also representing the San Juan Basin League in ’11 was Dolores, sixth-best (68.17) in the prelims — more than 2.5 points behind Cheyenne Wells and 3.5 behind IHS.

Telluride’s Carla Stauder and DC’s Zoey Young also were SJBLers tabbed All-State, coached respectively by Liza Huet and Karla Knuckles.

Ignacio’s result was the program’s best at state since consecutive sevenths in the Class 3A pom prelims back in 2000-01 and a sixth in ’02.

Ignacio placed ninth in ’03, and later 18th in the cheer prelims in ’06 — the Bobcats’ last championships-qualifying appearance until ’11.

# Be still and know

By Don Oliver  
Special to the Drum

When I sat down to write this column, it dawned on me it was too easy to write.

It was as if I had written these words before. So I checked two of my previous columns, and sure enough I had written about this subject before. I realized I couldn’t put new lipstick on that pig and sell it again.

So I had to do some research (go fly-fishing) for a new column.

I pulled into the parking lot of an area I haven’t fly-fished for a long time and immediately started my boot-and-suit routine. Daylight was wasting; I needed to get on the water.

Then something strange occurred to me: Mine was the only vehicle in the lot, and it was 10 a.m. Had the world ended and I wasn’t aware of it?

With a little more thought, it dawned on me: It was late fall. Then I remembered why I love to fly-fish in late fall: All the tourist have gone home. It’s too cold for rafters and swimmers. The residents of Durango were at work at their desks.

Only us old, retired curmudgeons, those unemployed, or those able to call in sick were going to be on the river.

I slowed myself down, and



took in all the bright colors. The sky was cobalt blue and the color chart for the trees went from yellow to bright red. It was still shirtsleeve weather, with a light breeze keeping all the unwanted bugs at bay.

As I sat on the back of my truck, now slowly gearing up, the memory of a Bible verse entered my mind. At least I think it is a Bible verse, or maybe part of one: “Be still and know that I am near.”

Not being a formal religious person, far be it from me to define who “I” is. There is plenty of stuff for me to worry myself with without delving into things I know little about.

But the verse stayed in mind. It was like when a song is suddenly in your mind and no matter what you do, it won’t go away. Not to be deterred, I had fish to catch. I drank a last swig

from my Perrier, put a fresh chew in my mouth, and headed for the river.

But I found myself moving with a slowness and stillness I usually don’t exhibit. I got to the river and just stood there taking it all in, the beauty and solitude. Standing there I suddenly knew, he, she, it — whatever you refer to as a higher authority — was near.

But not in a singular form; those that have gone before me, especially those that fly-fished, were around me.

They were there not in the shape of a ghost sitting on a rock telling me what fly to use. No, I knew just the thought of those folks was going to make for a great day. And truly, if I hadn’t found myself in a situation that allowed me to be silent, I don’t think I would have been aware of their nearness.

I was aware that when I missed an easy strike someone who had helped teach me to fly-fish was laughing. Mind you: not with me, but at me. And I bet it was a deep-bellied chortle.

So when it’s my time to be gone, I look forward to a belly laugh that brings the response, “If I feel that laugh one more time, I’m taking up golf.”

Wouldn’t it be even more fun if we could get that feeling any old time?

# Cow elk harvested



photo courtesy/Karla Tucson

Karla Tucson harvested this cow elk on Dec. 18 with the company of her husband and cousin.





# Top 15 news trends of 2011



photo Suzi Richards/SU Drum

## 15. Casino concerts

The Sky Ute Casino Resort upped its game in 2011 by bringing several big-name acts to Ignacio, including Joan Jett & the Blackhearts, Uncle Kracker, and the Pow Wow Comedy Jam, which included North American Indigenous Image Award-winning comedians Marc Yaffee, Vaughn Eaglebear and Howie Miller. Look for the trend to continue next year as it hosts country legend Dwight Yoakam on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012.



photo Robert Ortiz/SU Drum

## 14. Drums

Drums carry the cultural heartbeat of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and 2011 saw local groups like Yellowjacket/12 Gauge as busy as they've ever been. From festive powwows to more solemn occasions, such as political inaugurations, the drumbeat kept us all on pace.

## 13. Air quality

The Southern Ute Air Quality Program, part of the tribe's Justice & Regulatory Department, had a banner year that included a deal with Williams Four Corners that will have all of us breathing easier for years to come. Under its terms, Williams will replace aging equipment at its Ignacio natural gas processing plant with modern turbines, significantly reducing emissions in the area.



photo Ace Stryker/SU Drum



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

## 12. SunUte's 10th year

The SunUte Community Center reached the decade mark in 2011, and its 10th year of operations was the best yet. The center played host to a variety of athletic leagues, drawing hundreds of kids and adults from around the area, and many tribal members continue to enjoy their free membership to the state-of-the-art facility. Staffers celebrated 10 years in business with a Dec. 3 commemoration event.

## 11. Brunot hunting

Since the tribe resecured its rights to hunt on 4 million acres of Colorado land known as the Brunot area — first promised in an 1874 treaty with the federal government — it has become a popular area for Southern Ute hunters, as evidenced by the number of game shots we received this year.



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

## 10. Animas-La Plata Project



Lake Nighthorse reached its 123,500-acre-foot capacity on June 29, according to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, bringing to fruition a vision many decades in the making. To honor the longtime involvement of both Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute tribal members, organizers of the project dedicated the scenic Tribute Garden on Oct. 21. The lake could be open for recreation as early as 2012.

photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

## 9. Heritage Dancers

Southern Ute tribal members have long known the joy of traditional dances and shared it with other Native Americans in powwow settings, but 2011 saw the non-Native community also taking an interest. The tribe's Heritage Dancers were a hot commodity this year, being invited to perform at various events at locations such as the Durango-La Plata County Airport, the Springs Resort & Spa in Pagosa Springs, Colo., and local public schools.

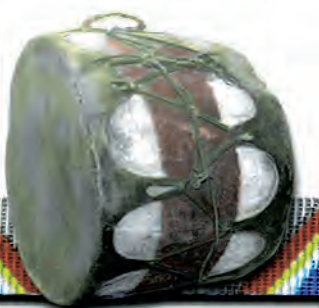


photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU Drum

## 8. Fires

It seemed at times like the whole country was on fire in 2011, and the Southern Ute Indian Reservation was not exempt. More than 20 fires burned through the area this summer, eight in a one-week span in early July. By far the largest of the season was the Sambrito 2 fire, which burned about 535 acres before being fully contained on Aug. 29.





## 7. Ute Park

The characteristically quiet, tranquil lawn of Ute Park bustled with activity at several times during the year. Under the shade of its massive trees, Ute Nations Day returned to the tribe on May 27, honoring the elders from the three Ute tribes responsible for designing their respective seals. The well-known tipi also received a facelift from Orval Joe, nephew of original artist McGarey Gallegos.



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

## 3. Youth leadership

On the far end of the age spectrum from the elders is the tribe's youth, who this year also played an important role in shaping the ongoing culture of the tribe. The Southern Ute Education Department, with help from its counterparts at the other Ute tribes, hosted the first ever Tri-Ute Leadership Conference at Fort Lewis College, a resounding success. The Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council also met for the first time with the Tribal Council in October.



photo Robert Ortiz/SU DRUM

## 6. Museum's first year

The Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum opened for business in May, drawing interest from around Indian Country with its unique layout inspired by traditional forms such as eagles and tipis. Through the year it played host to various engaging exhibits and events, including an antique Indian bike show in August and a haunted house in October.



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

## 5. Culture in the classroom

Students at the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy continued to learn the difference between a "payuku" and a "payukari"napü alongside their English reading, writing and arithmetic in 2011, but this year the Ignacio public schools also got involved, hosting several cultural workshops for students.

## 4. Honoring our elders

The wisdom of elders is a unique and irreplaceable treasure. This year, the tribe recognized that fact in a variety of venues, including Ute Nations Day and the Tribal Fair. The Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council made it official in the spring when it reintroduced an official body for elders' issues in the form of the Elders Language and Cultural Committee, tasking the group with teaching language and traditions to the rest of the tribe.



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

## 2. Elections

No fewer than four elections took place in 2011: a special election to fill the unexpired seat of resigned Chairman Matthew J. Box on April 12, won by Pearl E. Casias; a special election to fill the unexpired seat of resigned Councilman Jimmy R. Newton Jr. on Nov. 1, won by Howard D. Richards Sr.; a general election to fill the expired seats of Chairman Casias and council members Alex Cloud and Marge Borst on Nov. 4, which resulted in a runoff; and the runoff election on Dec. 14, won by Newton for chairman and Pathimi GoodTracks and Aaron V. Torres for council. Confused yet? Somehow, tribal members managed to keep up with it all — even if it meant logging lots of miles to and from the ballot box.

## 1. Madam chair

No single story in 2011 had greater implications both at home and afar than the election of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's first female chairman, Pearl E. Casias, on April 12. Her election proved that gender was no barrier to the leadership of the tribe, and that a woman can be every bit as much a "warrior in the halls of Congress" as a man. Though her tenure was a relatively short 8 months, her impact and legacy as a pioneer will be remembered much longer.



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

### Other important stories we'd be remiss to forget:

**Bobcat triumphs:** Tribal member Alex Pena secured his third high school wrestling state championship in as many years, leaving just one more season between him and admission to the four-crown club; and who could forget the IHS boys' basketball team's thrilling run in the state tournament?

**Ethics Commission:** After a hiatus, the Tribal Council reinstituted the Ethics Commission, affirming its commitment to fairness and transparency.

**Body in Lake Capote:** The tribe's recreation site became the scene of a tragic mystery in July when the body of a young Navajo man was found floating in the water.

**Rocky Mountain State Games:** The 2011 North American Indigenous Games in Milwaukee didn't go off as planned, but that didn't stop Southern Ute athletes from competing. Instead, they made the trip to Colorado Springs for the state games in late July.

**Demolition of old casino:** When the sign finally came down, it was as if Ignacio had lost one of its longest-standing, most-recognized landmarks.





Christmas and new year’s wishes

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2012 to my brothers and sisters: Clement, Ray, Dixie, Dona, Byron and Debra

We hold together true happiness, love, thoughtfulness and unselfishness and lots of laughter, whether we are together or away for a few short moments as Family.

There is never a dull moment in our lives as we share everyday with each other whether through cell phones calls or text messages, and family gatherings. We hold a bond that was created for us. At this time in our lives, I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas, and a great New Year.

The New Year will hold great things for us as we continue to keep together our strength and being there for each other. Even though the Hubs of our family wheel are no longer with us and that several spokes are gone, we will continue our journey as a remaining knitted family. May the Great Creator (God) bless each one of you and carry you through 2012. There is no greater love than Family.

Merry Christmas to you all.  
Your Sister,  
Darlene Frost

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2012 to Wendell Vigil & Family; Joe Vigil & Family; and Tara Vigil and Family.

I wish my own family a very, very joyous Christmas and a great New Year, 2012. May you receive all the presents you have on Santa's list, if not, then be extra nice for Christmas 2012.

I want to thank you for all the happiness you have brought me for this past year 2011. It has been such a joyous ride. Thank you for all that you have done for me and not done for me (LOL).

Wendell & Joe, you are the best Sons that I delivered through birth. You two have always been around when I needed things to be done and whenever I could catch up with you. Being around you both just laughing and sharing stories with you have been great. Keep that up for 2012.

Tara, you are the best, kindest and loving daughter a Mother could ever have. There is no other daughter than

you who has been around for me. Thank you for sharing the trips we have taken together, and having lots of fun. Wendell, Joe & Tara, know that I love you all and wish the bests 2012 for you. I truly enjoy being around my Grandchildren Sam, Aurora, Crystal, Nikki, Mariah, Sarina, Joseph, Jalisa, Jesse, Carlos and Shyanne.

Grandchildren are the best in the world, especially when you get to spoil them. Every one of you, have a blessed Christmas.

May you all receive what you asked Santa for. May the Creator & Angels be around you always and watch over you.

Love,  
Darlene Frost,  
Mother and Grandmother

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2012 to Jalisa, Orion and my Baby O (Orion Hunter Watts)

God Bless you three as you grow to become a family. It is such a blessing that you brought a beautiful baby boy, my Great Grandson Orion Hunter Watts, into this world.

There is no greater love than having a Great Grandson! He is growing up so fast. I just love to hold him and put him to sleep. Take care of yourselves and my little one.

Jalisa & Orion you are just great Parents to Little O. You both have bonded so well with him. I just want to wish you three a Blessed Christmas and a Great New Year 2012.

Merry Christmas to Great Grandson, Orion Hunter! I love you three very much.

May the Creator and all the Angels watch over each of you daily.

Love your Grandmother  
and Great Grandmother,  
Darlene Frost

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2012 to Jazmin & Jace Carmenoros

Thank you both for being a part of my life. You two are awesome and growing too fast. Always be kind & thoughtful, and mind your manners. Jazmin & Jace you are such a joy to be around.

There is never a dull moment in your lives because you two are always participating in basketball, baseball, flag football and other out-

door activities. Thank you both for being kind, having good manners, and being great students in school. I believe Santa is going to be good to you this year. Merry Christmas to you two munchkins.

Love Always your Great, Great Auntie, Darlene Frost.

To “My Baby New Year”  
Katrina M. Martinez

Yea! You're 21. As Frosty the Snowman would say: Happy Birthday!!

You have reached this part of your life's journey L.W.P. and you're just realizing your resilience, your faith in Creator and your inner strength.

Your path has had stones – some big, some small, but just like the name you were given, you have found a way to continue on down this road we call Life.

I know your Grandma Dot is smiling down on you appreciating your tenaciousness – sometimes adding a pinch.

Your Grandma B. also for remembering and listening to those gifts you carry in your heart and mind – Creator knows.

And me, your mama is thankful for all that you do, for your Papa, your son Nathan, and most of all, for yourself!

Prayers that were made for you by those elders, that you have not forgotten. Enjoy!!!

Have a Happy New Year 2012

We would like to wish our dad, Bennett, sisters and aunts: Luana and JoGenia, Brothers and Uncles: Frank, Keith and Shawn, Nieces and Cousins: Renelda, Elena, Natelle, Krisslynn, Gracelynn and Shoshone, Nephews and cousins: Abel, Kyle, Jordan, Christian, Mark, Eli, and Shelton. Great Niece and Nephews: Brianna, Jalen, Josh, Staffon, Cesar, Jawadina, Jesus and baby Stephen, Uncle Nate and all our family and friends a very Happy New Year. We hope that this new year brings you all happiness, good health, luck and prosperity. May the Good Lord always be with you to protect and watch over you. Remember to be good to each other, forgive and love each other as we love each and every one of you.

Becky and Mariah Thompson



photos courtesy/SUPD

SUPD thanks community for service

To the membership of the Southern Ute Indian tribe. want to thank you for allowing us the honor of serving you.

We embrace the responsibility you have given us to protect and enrich the lives of all people in our community.

We also look forward to continuing our many programs aimed at educating and enriching the youth in our community.

We look forward to working with tribal elders on ways to enhance our current and future programs. Thank you again for allowing us to serve.

Please have a happy and safe holiday season. Looking forward to next year!

The staff of the  
Southern Ute Police Department

Community resource programs and events

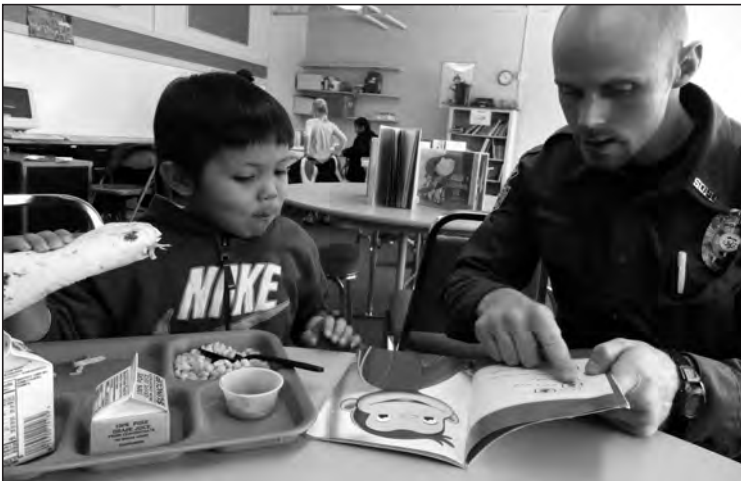
Programs

- Protecting you, Protecting me
- Family PE health class
- iSafe internet safety
- Bullying prevention
- Alive at 25
- Child passenger safety
- TRACK
- Gun safety 'Eddy Eagle'
- Self defense: teens
- Self defense: Boys & Girls Club
- Boys & Girls Club PeaceJam service learning
- Friday night monthly 'Overdrive' and family dinners
- Boys & Girls Club mentoring
- Elementary reading
- Boys & Girls Club PeaceJam

Events

- Annual Easter egg hunt
- Bike rodeo
- Camp Venture
- Police and youth academy
- Annual Archery Challenge
- Annual Halloween Carnival
- Thanksgiving basket giveaway
- Christmas lighting contest

“Snowflakes, leaves, humans, plants, raindrops, stars, microscopic entities all come in communities. The singular cannot in reality exist.” - Paula Gunn Allen



Jan. 13  
Drum  
DEADLINES

Display/Classified  
Ads & Jobs  
Jan. 6

Stories & News,  
Announcements  
Wishes/B-Days!  
Jan. 9

THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

A bi-weekly newspaper, owned and operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation in Ignacio, Colorado.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$29 Per Year • \$49 (2) Years

PHONE: 970-563-0100 • DIRECT: 970-563-0118  
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The Southern Ute Drum does not assume responsibility for unsolicited material & does not guarantee publication upon submission.  
Published bi-weekly and mailed 1st class from Ignacio, CO.  
Printed by the Farmington Daily Times • Farmington, NM  
The Southern ute Drum is a member of the Colorado Press Association.

StarWheels  
Horoscopes by “The Starlady”

♏ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 20)

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS CAPRICORN! Both your personal year and a young 2012 are off to a grand beginning. The SUN, MERCURY, and PLUTO group together in your sign at midmonth endowing you with inspiration to further your objectives. Sidestep the temptation to argue with a spouse or partner on the 8th. A sensitive FULL MOON in CANCER triggers opposing points of view and domestic disagreements might spring up. Making a good impression on others is a positive step forward. Show your best side CAPRICORN.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19)

January is a favorable month to set your sights on future objectives and what it will take to achieve them. Let your imagination run the course. Creative ideas come easily and the NEW MOON on the 22nd may be a good time to get some of your dreams into motion. VENUS in the finance section of your chart provokes fresh vision and it inspires you to earn more money. It's a fine month to increase your income.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20)

Sweet and generous VENUS enters your sign on the 13th, and immediately connects with your ruling planet NEPTUNE. (the dream maker) In all likelihood you'll be drawn into a more inspired mode. Additionally ... your charm and appeal will certainly attract people and resources your way. Stifle the desire to make extravagant purchases. They are not in your best interest Little Fishes. Instead concentrate on your hopes and goals for the future.

♈ ARIES (March 21–April 20)

Ambition driven ARIES folks might find 2012 more to their liking. The year is launched on a high note with the SUN, MERCURY, and PLUTO perched in the career sector of your chart. No matter what your objectives may be, (work related, or personal) make it a point to initiate some type of positive action. It might take extra effort on your part after the 23rd, but RAMS just love a challenge! Inventive URANUS currently living in your sign stimulates your desire to try out new ventures. Go for it RAMS.

♉ TAURUS (April 21–May 21)

January's celestial pattern indicates a month of practical decisions being made. Don't miss the opportunities that lie ahead TAURUS. This is the month to plan ahead, but flexibility may be called for. Encouraging planetary connections within your chart signify a brighter outlook. Giant JUPITER in your sign for awhile encourages lively possibilities regarding personal affairs. What's more it may help you to resolve relationship disputes that may have been hindering your peace and tranquility.

♊ GEMINI (May 21–June 21)

Nothing like the holidays to put the emphasis on cash and spending. The FULL MOON might stir up money issues regarding what you need or don't need to buy. Not to worry Twins ... with the SUN, MERCURY, and PLUTO in practical CAPRICORN you're sure to make wiser decisions concerning your spending habits. A work related bonus, or gift of money might be forthcoming. Just when you need it the most! Be careful with sharp objects in the home. MARS provokes impatience and carelessness.

♋ CANCER (June 22–July 22)

Current planetary influences suggest using a softer approach when dealing with partners and close friends this holiday season. The FULL MOON in your sign on the 8th rouses opposing points of view. Try to peacefully clear the air MOON KIDS. Then you can launch the NEW YEAR on a positive note. Set aside time to pursue fresh interests that can expand your outlook. This is a growth year for you, and being more adaptable and open allows you to grow in a helpful and constructive way. Strengthen your confidence.

♌ LEO (July 23–Aug. 22)

HAPPY NEW YEAR LIONS! Top your list of resolutions with a promise to incorporate refreshing health and work methods into your daily routine. And ... do your best to keep them active all year. The accent is on employment matters, the important point to remember is to stay with your job and do your very best. This may turn out to be a profitable month that enables you to get ahead. Lucky JUPITER in your career area continues to stimulate both professional and personal goals.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 23)

NEW YEAR'S DAY dawns with the MOON in the competitive, impatient sign of ARIES. Use the energy wisely VIRGO. Rather than Boo-hooing over how much you spent for holiday gifts, take steps to plan a practical budget you can live with. Friendly planets located in the imaginative and productive zone of your chart may inspire you to take up an enjoyable hobby. Be sure to get it going before the 23rd when MARS goes to sleep in your sign.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24–Oct. 23)

The planetary focal point activates domestic interests this month. Best to take a more conservative approach rather than going overboard with household related projects. Be of good cheer LIBRA people. The planets will be testing your patience this month. Steer clear of arguments, particularly with the elders in the family. Let your peace-making talents rule. Family relations take top priority and may require patience. You have that talent ... in abundance!

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22)

Your daily pace accelerates this month and you may find yourself happily running from one errand to another. Promising communications stimulate your ambitions. Furthermore, VENUS in compatible PISCES holds the assurance of increased finances and possible job improvements. MARS retrogrades on the 23rd. Plan ahead of that SCORPIO, spend your money wisely. It might be one of your best years. Maintain an optimistic outlook. New relationships enter your life this year. Let them happen naturally.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21)

Ring in the NEW YEAR by making improvements in your spending habits. Sensible methods may come easier this month while the SUN, MERCURY, and PLUTO occupy the practical, and stable sign of CAPRICORN. Beneficial JUPITER favors better employment opportunities and improved finances. As an added plus, MARS provides the momentum needed to put your plans into action. Stay tuned in Saggies, the year begins on a fast track and you will need to be ready to jump into motivation mode.

Carole Maye is a Certified Astrology Professional with over 30 years of astrological study and practice.  
Private horoscope consultations can be arranged by appointment, via email: starwheels2@comcast.net





## The financial impact of a DUI

By **Tim Heydinger**  
Southern Ute Tribal Court

The holiday season is here.

At this time of year, there is a substantial increase in the number of people accused of driving while under the influence of alcohol. There are a myriad of reasons to not drink and drive. One of those reasons is the simple financial impact of a DUI arrest and conviction.

People frequently ask, "What's this going to cost me?"

If a police officer suspects the a person is DUI, the person will be arrested, taken to jail, and required to post some sort of bond before being released. For a first time DUI arrest, bond typically is \$1,500. If the person uses a bondsman to help get them out of jail, the bondsman typically will charge a fee of \$225. That is the bondsman's fee, and the person will not get this money back.

If a person chooses, they may hire private counsel to represent them. The cost for hiring a lawyer is not cheap. Lawyers

typically require that an up-front retainer fee be paid. While the fee can vary substantially, it frequently is many hundreds of dollars (if not more).

If the person ultimately is convicted of the DUI charge (or even a lesser charge of driving while ability impaired), some form of probation usually is imposed. The conditions of probation include alcohol classes, attendance at a DUI victim impact panel, a fine, the payment of court costs, and probation supervision fees. Each one of these requirements has costs money.

The DUI victim impact panel is fairly inexpensive – in the neighborhood of \$25. The fine for a first-time DUI is between \$100 and \$150; if there are prior DUI convictions, the amount of the fine goes up. Probation supervision fees are \$240. Court costs are \$25. The cost of the alcohol classes varies, but frequently is in excess of \$1,000.

There also are potential costs related to one's driver license and driving privileges. It is not

uncommon for a person with a DUI case to lose their driver license for some period of time. Before the person can get their driver license back, they will have to pay a reinstatement fee of \$95.

They also will have to purchase a special type of insurance called SR22 insurance. SR22 insurance is very expensive. Many people also are required to have a vehicle interlock device installed. In addition to the initial installation fee, interlocks usually cost more than \$100 per month.

The financial impact of a DUI conviction, even a first time, non-aggravated, run-of-the-mill DUI without the assistance of a lawyer, is significant. When one factors in other considerations, such as the increased likelihood of being involved in an accident where someone may be seriously injured or worse, it becomes obvious that drinking and driving do not mix. It just is not worth it – financially or otherwise.

Make the right choice: Enjoy the holidays, but do not drink and drive.

## How to safely clean up a broken fluorescent light bulb

By **Peter Diethrich**

Southern Ute Environmental Programs

Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and other fluorescent light bulbs contain a small amount of mercury vapor, which is sealed within the glass tubing. Mercury is toxic and can affect the brain, kidneys, skin and lungs. To minimize your exposure to

mercury vapor, follow the steps below.

Before cleanup, have people and pets leave the room and air out the room for five to 10 minutes with outside air. You'll need stiff paper or cardboard, sticky tape, a damp paper towel or disposable wipe, and a glass jar with a lid or a sealable plastic bag.

During cleanup, do not vacuum! Vacuuming could spread mercury-containing powder. Instead, thoroughly but safely collect the broken glass and visible powder and place it in your sealable container.

After cleanup, place the sealed container in an outside trash can and continue to air out the room if practical.

## Christmas Light Contest Winners!

Hosted by the Southern Ute Police Department  
Donations by SunUte Community Center, Sky Ute Casino Resort and SUPD  
Thank you to all, for participating in this years 2011 Christmas Light Contest.

**The winners are:**

**1. Franklin Thompson; 2. Sandra Maez; 3. Patricia Jacket**

The Southern Ute Police Department would like to thank all the participants in the 2011 Annual Christmas Light Contest: Franklin Thompson, Clara Lucero, SanJean Burch, Patricia Jacket, Amber Baker-Valdez, Brandon Johnson, Olin Goodtracks, Lanay Naranjo, Jeremiah Montoya, Sandra Maez, Luana Herrera, and Rochelle Taylor. This year's competition was tough to judge and we would like to say thank you for all the hard work you put into your decorations.

Next year we would like to invite these participants and any community member to join us in our Christmas Light Contest meetings. Each year we begin the first week in November. If you would like to be a part of this process please contact Crystal Thompson or Amanda Lucero at 970-563-0246 to sign up.

## To serve and provide



photo Ace Stryker/SU DRUM

Southern Ute Police Department officers and staffers load the back of a police truck with presents for local families. Each year, the Southern Ute Department of Justice & Regulatory partners with Project Merry Christmas and Southern Ute Montessori Head Start to identify local families in need of a little holiday cheer. This year, the department provided presents to six families.

**Ignacio**  
Chamber of Commerce  
Business Directory  
One Cool Little Town

### Restaurants

**Julie's El Amigo**

970-563-9998, 355 Goddard Ave., jquintana1952@yahoo.com, 11a-8p

"Mexican & American food"

### Retail

**Classy Seconds**

970-563-1230

645 Goddard Ave.

classysecondsangela@gmail.com

M-F 9a-5p

**Pine River Enterprises**

970-563-9286

1817 Hwy. 151

M-F 7:30a-5p

"Selling tires and farm and ranch goods"

**Marcella's Gifts**

970-563-0266

355 Goddard Ave.

diamondlady@frontier.net

Tu-Sa 10a-5:30p; Su appt

**Pinon Liquors**

970-563-4083

125 Goddard Ave.

M-Th 10a-11p; F-Sa 10a-12a; Su 10a-10p

"Everyday low prices; drive-up window; good wine selection; coldest beer"

### Services

**Ignacio Community Library**

970-563-9287

470 Goddard Ave.

www.ignaciolibrary.org

M-Th 9a-7p; F 9a-5p; Sa 9a-4p

"A cool place to check out"

**Photocopier Service/Copy Shop**

970-884-2311

1327 U.S. Hwy 160B Ste. F

M-F 9a-4p

"Copies, inks, toners, imaging supplies on all makes office equipment"

**Paco Glass Inc.**

970-563-4074

950 1/2 Goddard Ave.

"Summertime is coming; keep the bugs out and get your screens done early"

**Pine River Times**

970-884-2331

110 E. Mill St.

www.pinerivertimes.com

"The heart of the Pine River Valley"

To advertise in the Ignacio Business directory, contact Ignacio Floral & Gifts at 970-563-4070 or The Southern Ute Drum at 970-563-0118.





SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

# New Year's Eve Dinner & Party

## TO THE MUSIC OF RALPH DINOSAUR

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

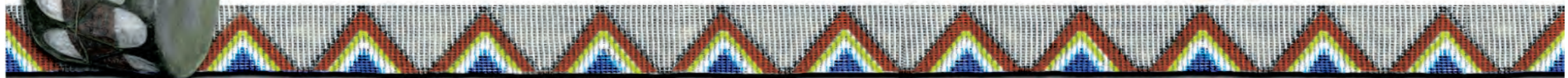
Be sure to join Sky Ute Casino and Ralph Dinosaur as we usher out 2011 and ring in 2012 at our New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance Party in the Event's Center. Tickets for dinner and the dance are \$30 for singles and \$50 for couples. Hors d'Oeuvres will be served from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. and dinner will be served from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Jonas Grushkin will provide entertainment from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. The party gets started at 9 p.m. when Ralph Dinosaur takes the stage! Anyone wishing to purchase tickets to just the dance may do so for \$15 per person. Party favors and a champagne toast at Midnight are included in the price of all tickets! A cash bar will also be available. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.skyutecasino.com](http://www.skyutecasino.com) or by visiting the Sky Ute Casino Gift Shop.

Must be 21 or older or be accompanied by an adult to enter. Management reserves the right to change or cancel this event at anytime without prior notice.

14324 Hwy 172 N. Ignacio, CO 81137 **970-563-7777**  
**[www.skyutecasino.com](http://www.skyutecasino.com)**





# Dreaming of a Ute Christmas



Students from each grade level performed short skits and songs along with their classmates during the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy's annual Christmas program on Saturday, Dec. 17. The program included introductions by Southern Ute Royalty members, Chairman Jimmy R. Newton Jr., and members of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council. Families enjoyed a holiday themed banquet style meal, followed by a live performance from Plead the Fifth, an Ignacio rhythm-and-blues/rock band. The program ended with an appearance from Santa Claus and a chance for young ones to receive early Christmas gifts. The program took place in the Sky Ute Casino Resort's Events Center.



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM







### Southern Ute Growth Fund

Obtain complete job descriptions and applications from the Growth Fund Human Resources, 14933 Hwy. 172 • P.O. Box 367 • Ignacio, CO • 970-563-5064 • rtaylor@sugf.com  
Tribal Member Employment Preference, Must Pass Pre-employment Drug Test & Criminal History.

#### Operator II

Closing date 12/31/11 – Frontier Field Services  
Wheeler, Texas. All processes and duties necessary to ensure optimum plant performance.

#### Plant Accountant II

Closing date 12/31/11 – Frontier Field Services  
Tulsa, OK. Inputting and verifying relevant data, correct data issues, calculating and verifying plant settlement and produce statements.

#### Materials Manager

Closing date 1/3/12 – Red Willow Production Co.  
Ignacio, CO. Management of a centralized Materials Function for all operated projects with a focus on procurement and inventory optimization.

#### Instrumentation & Controls Operator III

Closing date 1/3/12 – Lumen Midstream  
Cheney, Kansas. Assisting with maintaining the plant control system, analytical equipment, electrical equipment, and instrumentation.

#### Instrumentation & Controls Operator III

Closing date 1/3/12 – Frontier Field Services  
Empire/Abo Plant, NM. Assisting with maintaining the plant control system, analytical equipment, electrical equipment, and instrumentation.

#### Land Records Technician

Closing date 1/5/12 – Red Willow Production Co.  
Ignacio, CO. Assists Land Records Analysts,

Landmen and Land Manager in maintaining orderly and accurate land records for all Red Willow interest properties.

#### Gas Volume Analyst I

Closing date 1/6/12 – Red Willow Production Co.  
Ignacio, CO. To monitor natural gas production volumes, nominate natural gas to gas gathering and transportation pipelines, maintain gathering and transportation contracts.

#### PeopleSoft Senior FSCM Developer

Closing date 1/13/12 – SU Growth Fund  
Ignacio, CO. Development and production support of PeopleSoft FSCM applications, providing PeopleSoft Payroll technical support and consultation.

#### PeopleSoft Senior HR Developer

Closing date 1/13/12 – SU Growth Fund  
Ignacio, CO. Development, analysis, and production support of PeopleSoft Human Capital Management applications, providing PeopleSoft HR and Benefits technical support and consultation.

#### PeopleSoft Senior Payroll Developer

Closing date 1/13/12 – SU Growth Fund  
Ignacio, CO. Development and production support of PeopleSoft Human Capital Management and related interface to General Ledger and Accounts Payable, providing PeopleSoft Payroll technical support and consultation.

### Sky Ute Casino Resort

Human Resources Department: 970-563-1311 • Fax: 970-563-1419  
P.O. Box 340 • Ignacio, CO 81137 • Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Indian Preference Employer • All Applicants Welcome • Apply online: www.skyutecasino.com

#### Hotel

Room Attendant - TMP, 12/30/11

#### Marketing

Marketing/Sales Administrative Assistant - FT, Open Until Filled

#### Salon

Cosmetologist - PT/no benefits, Open Until Filled

#### Table Games

Multi-Games Dealer - TMP, Open Until Filled

Poker Dealer - TMP, Open Until Filled

Poker Dealer - FT, Open Until Filled

*Preference Given To Qualified Southern Ute tribal members and other Native Americans.*

*FT: Full-time, PT: Part-time, OC: On-Call, TMP: Temp*

### SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE Powwow Committee vacancy

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe has four Powwow Committee Member vacancies. Must be an enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members or a Native American community member. Members serve on a voluntary basis. The responsibility of the Southern Ute Indian Powwow Committee is to promote the traditions and culture of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe through powwows. All interests individuals are urged to submit a letter of intent to Personnel Department in the Leonard C. Burch Tribal Administration Building.

### SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE, ETHICS OFFICE Ethics Hearing Officer

The Department of Justice and Regulatory, Ethics Office is seeking qualified applicants to serve as an Ethics Hearing Officer for the Ethics Commission. This position will be a contract position and paid on an "as needed" basis only. Compensation is negotiable. The qualified applicant must be law trained and have some experience in practicing in an Administrative Hearing or trial setting. More than one Hearing Officer may be required to account for potential conflicts of interest. Please submit a letter of interest and qualifications to Mr. Charley Flagg, Director, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Department of Justice and Regulatory, PO Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137 or call for any questions at 970-563-0292. Deadline for submission is Jan. 18, 2012.

### SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE, SOCIAL SERVICES Citizen Review Panel

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is seeking five (5) Southern Ute Tribal Members to serve on the Citizen Review Panel. The Panel reviews complaints arising from and related to cases handled by the Tribe's Division of Social Services and engages in a conflict resolution process. Panel members shall receive compensation at the rate of \$25 per hour for service on the Panel. Applicants must be at least eighteen (18) years of age or older; have demonstrable personal or professional knowledge and experience with children and/or adult protection; have no convictions for crimes of violence or involving a child victim; is not party to litigation involving the Division, or has had an active welfare case within two years; is not a Division employee. All applicants will be subject to a background investigation. Tribal members interested in serving on the Citizen Review Panel can turn in a letter of intent at the Human Resources Office. The letter should provide specific evidence of his/her qualifications. For detailed information about this volunteer position call Human Resources at 970-563-0100 Ext. 2424.

### SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE, WILDLIFE DIVISION Wildlife Advisory Board vacancies

The Tribe is seeking enrolled SUIT members wishing to fill TWO vacant seats on the Tribal Member Wildlife Advisory Board. One of the vacancies is for the remaining 2 years of a 3-year seat on the Board, while the second vacancy is for a 1-year, Youth-Only seat. The Youth seat may only be filled by a Tribal Member between the ages of 14 and 18. This 8-member Board works closely with the Wildlife Division in planning and recommending actions related to Tribal hunting and fishing programs. Board members not already employed by the Tribe are eligible for \$20/hr compensation for meeting attendance. Meetings are held several times throughout the year, and a commitment to attend and participate in all meetings is expected. Interested tribal members must submit a brief letter of interest to the Southern Ute Wildlife Division at P.O. Box 737, Ignacio CO, 81137. For more information, please contact the Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130. Letters of interest will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 17, 2011.

### The Southern Ute Vocational Rehabilitation Program wants to know . . . . .

#### Are you looking for a career ??



#### You may qualify for services if the following apply:

- ☒ I am a Native American living on or near the Southern Ute Indian reservation
- ☒ I have a physical or mental challenge which makes it difficult to find or keep a job  
(Examples: Diabetes, hearing loss, eye disorder, asthma, learning disability, chronic pain or any other condition that limits your ability to work)



"Making Change Work For You"

Contact the Southern Ute Vocational Rehabilitation  
Program today at 970-563-4730

## This space is reserved for you!

Advertise  
with the  
Southern Ute  
Drum

970-563-0118

sudrum@southern-  
ute.nsn.us

## Want to get involved in your community?

The Board of County Commissioners invites all members of the community to apply for a vacancy on the following committee:

### Planning Commission

This position is advisory only and is not monetarily compensated, however, reasonable mileage expenses will be reimbursed. Please check the county website for specific board requirements. An application and a description may be obtained online at [www.co.laplata.co.us](http://www.co.laplata.co.us) on the home page or from the La Plata County Courthouse Information Center, 1060 East Second Avenue, Durango, CO. Applications must be returned by January 13, 2012. For additional information contact Jan Mayer-Gawlik at 382-6219.



## NEW EMPLOYEES



#### Marshall Cote

Job title: Electrician maintenance technician  
Description of duties: Building electrical maintenance.  
Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, hiking, enjoying the outdoors.  
Family: Wife Gina Cote of Bayfield, daughter Nancy Wickham and son Adrian of Durango.

## 2012 Happy New Year

Sunday, January 1st 2012

10:00am - 2:00pm

(pool closing at 2:00pm)

Monday, January 2nd

8:00 am - 5:00pm

(pool closing at 4:30pm)

We will resume normal business hours  
Tuesday, January 3rd at 6:00am.

**SunUte Community Center**

For more information, please call us  
at 970-563-0214.



# Community Business Section

**PAGOSA SMILES**  
Drs. Glenn & Jordan Rutherford  
Look for Our Valuable Coupon @ [PagosaSmiles.com](http://PagosaSmiles.com)

**731-DOCS (3627)**

- Affordable Implants
- Invisible Braces
- Sedation for Anxiety
- We Love Kids
- Digital X-Rays for 85% Less Radiation
- Credit Cards & Interest Free Financing

**4x4 AUTO**  
Will Swinney  
(970) 385-7940  
(970) 385-7943 Fax

21698 Hwy. 160 West  
Durango, CO 81303

**Advertise with us!**  
The Drum is read by 1,700 people per issue!

Call 970-563-0118 for rates!

We are also online at the addresses below.

Drum Web: [southern-ute.nsn.us/drum](http://southern-ute.nsn.us/drum) • Drum Email: [sudrum@southern-ute.nsn.us](mailto:sudrum@southern-ute.nsn.us)





photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

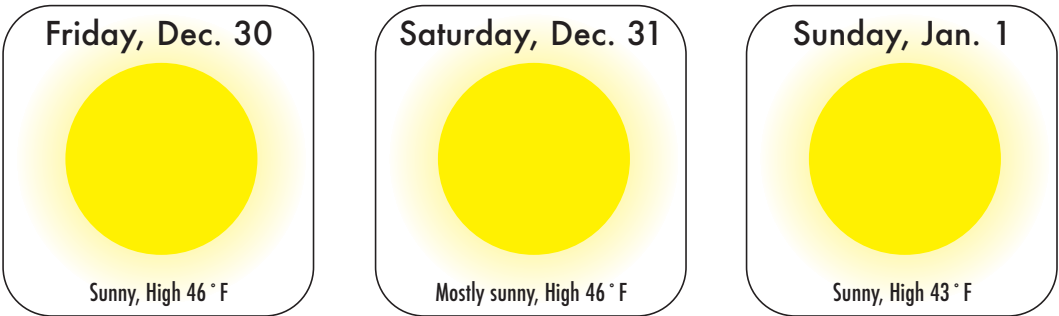


# Christmas party anything but intermediate

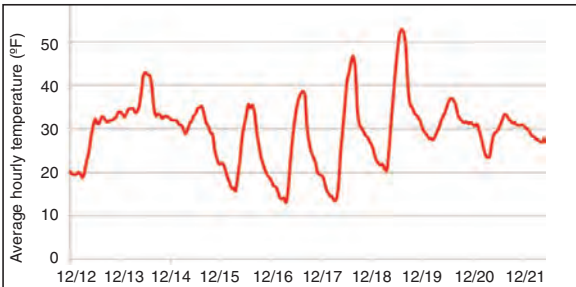
Peer Leaders Uniting Students, better known to Ignacio Intermediate students as PLUS, hosted a holiday-themed social in the school's gym on Friday, Dec. 16. Under the guidance of Oscar Cosio, PLUS leaders made ready for their classmates and set up activities. While some organized the raffle, others prepared posters and giveaways. Using state-of-the-art sound equipment, a couple of students even took charge of the music for the dance-off competition. Carols and Christmas songs were also sung in a grade-by-grade competition.



## Local Ignacio Weather

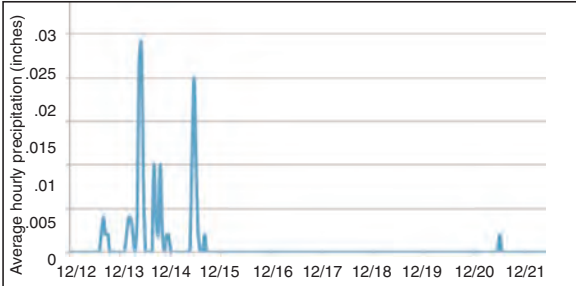


Weather data for December 12 - December 21



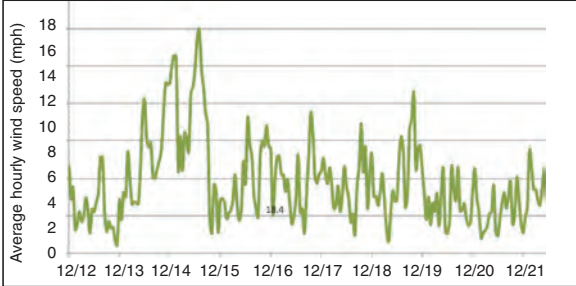
### Temperature

High	52.8°F
Low	13.1°F
Average	29.3°F
Average last year	33.7°F



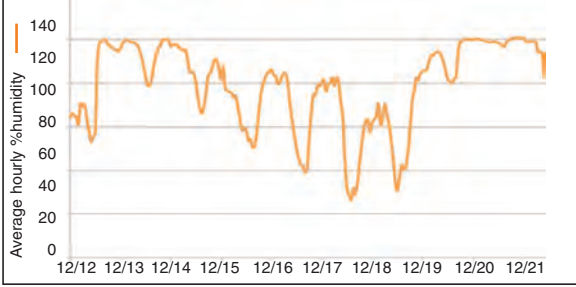
### Precipitation

Total	0.32 inches
Total last year	0.83 inches



### Wind speed

Average	3.8 mph
Minimum	0.4 mph
Maximum	11.9 mph



### Visibility & humidity

Avg. humidity	79.2%
---------------	-------

Air quality  
Good



Data compiled by Southern Ute Environmental Programs

Weather forecasts collected from www.NOAA.gov

14  
JAN  
2012

**PLEAD THE FIFTH**

**WHERE**  
SKY UTE CASINO  
49 LOUNGE  
14324 HWY 172  
**TIME**  
9PM TO 12:30AM

REVERBNATION.COM/PLEADTHEFIFTH

FACEBOOK.COM/UTESTYLEBLUES